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A Word for the Times.

A powerful, gracious, Divine influence is evidently moving upon the minds of vast multitudes throughout our country, uniting Christians of every name in fervent prayer, and inducing the hitherto irreligious to attend upon Christian worship and direct their thoughts with unusual seriousness and concern to the holy Word and Author of salvation. Too grateful we cannot be for such a visitation of the Spirit of Grace. It is hope and life to lost souls; its fruits are in all goodness and righteousness and peace. It produces in our fallen nature the mightiest change; where duly cherished, a universal reformation, a never-failing charity, and immortal joy. True faith will ever work by love, purify the heart, and overcome the world. Should the blessed spirit of God arouse the whole company of believers to a deeper sense of duty, to clearer views of the moral miseries in which mankind by sin are involved, and of their obligations, in dependence upon Divine aid, to endeavor more earnestly and perseveringly to save them from these miseries, to bring all nations under the dominion of the Son of God, the treasuries of all benevolent institutions would be speedily replenished, and their various operations move onward with ten-fold power. Amid our many other duties and objects let not Africa be forgotten. Let ten thousand voices, from every State of the Union, animated by the Divine Spirit of Him, who died to redeem the world, speak to her, in her ruin and despair, words of comfort and of hope. Let ten thousand hands bring bountiful offerings for her relief. To us she appeals with peculiar propriety and force, both because of the debt we owe her, and the ample means bestowed on us, by Providence, for payment. She is making this appeal, from her feeble and widely-separated civilized settlements along her coasts; from her mission stations in the interior; from the dwellings of her converted heathen, from her desolated fields, and

barbarous kingdoms, she implores us to send her the means and teachers of civilization, and that Truth, which, alone, directs men, in all conditions and countries, to happiness and Heaven. Shall any professed friend of Liberia cease to pray and labor for her good? Can any christian heart remain unaffected by the miseries of Africa? God forbid! Let all do something; for the necessity is great and our time short.

The Board of Directors, at their late annual meeting, indicated the establishment of settlements on the interior highlands of Liberia, as one of the most important objects (when-ever means shall be supplied) to be accomplished; and that colonization on the Slave Coast, especially in the country of Yoruba, near the Niger, (strongly recommended by the Rev. Mr. Bowen,) well deserves

consideration. Certainly the friends of this Society should bear constantly in mind that their enterprise is but begun; that all Africa is their field; that money only is wanting to enable them to do much in a short time; that the miseries to be relieved, and the benefits to be bestowed, are immense motives for immediate action, and that no man should be willing to die in the consciousness of the neglect, of his highest duties, to his Maker and fellow-men. The policy suggested by the Board is large enough to awaken the highest and holiest enthusiasm in the cause of colonization, and we hope will be sustained by a liberality corresponding to the promising extent and beneficence of its results. Of course, all depends, under God, on the liberality of the friends of the Society.

Interesting Correspondence

BETWEEN MR. LATROBE, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,
AND HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS THE HIGH ADMIRAL OF RUSSIA.

It is generally known, that the President of this Institution has been engaged in important affairs, during the past winter, at St. Petersburg. Animated, as ever, with zeal in the cause, for which he has done so much, and of the Society over which with such distinguished ability he presides, he has lost no opportunity of making known the condition of Liberia, and the views and purposes of the Society, to the eminent men

of the Government and Court of Russia. He has kindly transmitted the following correspondence (which arose out of a conversation at the time of his presentation to the Grand Duke) to the Society, with the remark, "I trust you will agree with me in thinking, that the exchange of courtesies that will thus be brought about between this great Empire and the Republic of Liberia, will be gratifying and useful.

Mr. Latrobe to the Grand Duke Constantin.
To His Imperial Highness
the Grand Duke Constantin Nicolaevitch:
MONSEIGNEUR:—

In the interview, which the undersigned, as President of the American Colonization Society, had the honor to have with your Imperial Highness, on the 19th instant, the undersigned ventured to express the hope that your Highness would not be unwilling to direct any Russian squadron that might, from time to time, be in their neighborhood, to visit the ports of the Republic of Liberia. Your Highness was pleased, as it appeared to the undersigned, not to regard the suggestion unfavorably, and the undersigned has accordingly been led to address to your Highness the present communication, as well for the purpose of making a request to the above effect in an authentic form, as to explain in a few words the condition and prospects of Liberia.

Forty-one years ago, wise and good men in the United States of America foresaw, they believed, the coming of a day when the elastic pressure of a rapidly increasing white population, filling all the avenues of labor, and competing with the emancipated slaves, known as the free colored people, in a strife for bread, would make it for the interest of the latter, even if it did not force them, to seek a new home beyond the white man's reach. To provide such a home in the land from which the ancestors of these free colored people came, and in a climate congenial to the colored race only, the parties above referred to formed themselves into a society, co-extensive with the Union, under the name of the American Colonization Society, and established a colony on the West Coast of Africa, that has since grown, with accretions from the United States, into the Republic of Liberia.

The territory of Liberia extends from the British Colony of Sierra Leone south-

eastward to Cape Palmas, and thence eastward to the Rio Pedro, having a front on the Atlantic of upwards of five hundred miles, with an indefinite extension to the interior. The government is modelled after that of the United States, and is admirably administered. Its independence has been recognized by several of the leading Powers of the world. Its first national vessel of war was presented to it by England, and France has recently presented it with another. The people of Liberia are a christian, religious, and law-abiding people, who, released from the adverse influences that had depressed them in America, have manifested the most unmistakable capacity to assume and maintain an honorable position among the civilized nations of the earth. They have their churches and schools, their benevolent associations, their literary societies, and exhibit, in fact, all those evidences of social improvement which characterize an intelligent and prosperous community. They are still, it is true, few in number and comparatively feeble; but the whole history of Colonization, no matter from what country or under what circumstances, furnishes no instance of equal results for good accomplished in the same brief period of time. The trade of Liberia is increasing with rare rapidity. The Republic affords an opening through which commerce may flow in upon one of the few unglutted markets of the world—the continent of Africa. While England seeks Timbuctoo by steaming up the Niger, the rivers of Liberia head in the mountain range whose northern slope is drained into the valley of that mighty stream. The commercial future of Liberia cannot be overrated. Its exports now are palm oil, wax, ivory, hides, gold dust, dye-stuffs. It receives in exchange the products of Europe and America, which it is the means of distributing through the interior

of the country. Founded in the first instance by the contributions of individual benevolence, and afterwards maintained in the same way and by donations from State governments in the United States, it has gradually grown to be capable of self-support, self-government and self-defence. If it accomplishes the wishes of its founders, it will be through the operation of the principle, that makes all colonization dependant upon the attractions of the new home or the repulsions of the old one, or upon both combined. That Liberia in its growth and prosperity is daily becoming more attractive to the free colored people of the United States, there can be no question. That repulsion goes on increasing in the latter, as the white population increases naturally and by emigration, from the old world, may be assumed with equal certainty. Should the result be to produce a voluntary and self-paying emigration from America to Liberia such as now, with no more reason, takes place from Europe to the United States, a few years only will be required to build up a Christian nation in Africa of the widest and most salutary influence. For even now, weak as Liberia is, it has extirpated the slave trade that once flourished on the line of sea-coast occupied by the settlements of the Republic; and even to-day it ranks among the most important of the Missionary Stations among the heathen. So that putting aside all mere political considerations, and leaving out of view its relations to the free colored population of America with regard to their ultimate destiny, it commends itself as an agent of great good otherwise to the human race, to the favor of the whole civilized world. It is its claim to consideration, in this last respect, that has led the undersigned to bring it to the notice of your Imperial Highness. Its principal port is Monrovia, which is the rendezvous of the American

squadron of 80 guns kept on the Coast under treaty stipulations with Great Britain, for the suppression of the slave trade. Its other ports are Bassa, Sinoe, and Cape Palmas. In any of these all ordinary supplies may be obtained, and there is not one of them at which the visit of a Russian squadron would not be hailed with the greatest satisfaction, if for no other reason than because of the additional countenance that would be thereby afforded to the efforts which its people are making to take a rank among the nations.

Should the undersigned have exceeded the limits of a proper reserve on this occasion, he trusts that an excuse will be found in the kindness with which your Imperial Highness received him, and the very flattering attention that your Highness appeared to pay to what the undersigned ventured to say upon the subject. The undersigned has also relied, perhaps, upon the fact, that knowing the feelings of his countrymen, generally, towards Russia, the expression of which, even to-day, he finds in the recent message of the President to Congress, he has ventured to hope that the reciprocal sentiments which are believed to exist in this country might be invoked, through your Imperial Highness, in behalf of the only Colony that has ever gone forth from America, and the more so too, when, independant of all other considerations, that colony, the creature of benevolence and philanthropy, was the agent of civilization and religion: and taking the present occasion to express to your Imperial Highness his profound respect, the undersigned has the honor to remain,

Your Highness's obedient servant,

JNO. H. B. LATROBE,
President Am. Col. Society

Mr. Seymour to Prince Gortchakoff.

The undersigned, Minister of the United States of America, has the honor to enclose to Prince Gortchakoff, Minister for Foreign Affairs, a communication addressed by Mr. Latrobe, President of the American Colonization Society, to his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantin, growing out of a conversation that Mr. Latrobe had the honor to have with his Imperial Highness on the occasion of his presentation. Mr. Seymour places this communication in the hands of Prince Gortchakoff, that it may reach his Imperial Highness through the proper channel; and takes this opportunity to renew to Prince Gortchakoff the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

ST. PETERSBURGH, January 21.

Prince Gortchakoff to Mr. Seymour. Translation.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has had the honor of placing before Monseigneur the Grand Admiral, the letter of Mr. Latrobe, President of the American Colonization Society, which the Envoy of the United States transmitted on the 21st of January.

His Imperial Highness has read with great interest the details that are given of the present prosperity of the Colony of Liberia; and in conformity with the wishes of Mr. Latrobe, will give instructions to the ships of the Imperial Marine which may find themselves on the Coast of Africa, to visit the ports of the Colony.

Prince Gortchakoff, therefore, begs that Mr. Seymour, in accordance with the intentions of his Imperial Highness, will communicate this to Mr. Latrobe; and he avails himself of the opportunity to offer to the Minister of the United States the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

ST. PETERSBURGH, January 25, 1858.

Mr. Latrobe to President Benson.

To his Excellency

the President of Liberia:

ST. PETERSBURGH, Feb. 1, 1858.

YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The correspondence that I have the honor to enclose to you explains itself. It resulted from my presentation, as President of the American Colonization Society, to the High Admiral of Russia, his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantin Nicolaevitch, on which occasion, very naturally, Liberia, its condition and prospects, formed the leading topic of conversation, giving me an opportunity that I gladly improved, so far as I was able, to the advantage of the Republic. The idea of a visit of a Russian squadron to Liberia expressed incidentally, was so favorably received by the enlightened Prince and accomplished gentleman to whom it was addressed, that I ventured, without previous consultation, which was impracticable, with your Excellency, to give to it a formal shape, relying upon your Excellency's appreciating the motive and justifying the zeal, that thus seized the occasion of putting the Republic in direct communication through the interchange of courtesies, with this great Empire. I am well aware that no suggestion of mine is at all necessary to induce your Excellency to pay to the flag of Russia whenever it enters your ports the respect demanded by the comity of nations: but I have thought that a statement of the circumstances under which the visit will be made, would be agreeable to your Excellency and the citizens of the Republic, and that you would not lose the occasion of testifying by your attention to his officers, your estimate of their Chief.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's humble servant,

JNO. H. B. LATROBE,

President Am. Col. Society.

Interesting Extracts from Letters of a Clergyman in the South.

THE letters from which we venture below to make copious extracts, were written by an excellent minister in the South to the Financial Secretary of the Society. Their esteemed and pious author is truly the friend of all men, and we believe speaks the general sense of the most enlightened and devout Christians throughout all the Southern States. His sentiments are most just and benevolent, and therefore in accordance with the spirit of the Divine Word.

JANUARY 30, 1858.

Rev. W. McLain,

Dear Brother:—Inclosed you will find a dollar, for my subscription to the Repository.

The last number of the Repository contains some very interesting and encouraging matter to the friends of Africa. The reflections of your editorial, together with the contents of Mr. Seymour's letter, is gratifying and encouraging indeed. It must be apparent to all sober, investigating minds, that the redemption of Africa is a settled and fixed purpose of the Great Ruler of all.

The indications on both sides of the Atlantic, pointing virtually to the re-opening of the slave trade, may be regarded by some as unfavorable to this interest. But it is not to the fickle and ever-changing positions, either of men or nations, that we are to look for certainty and success on this or any other subject; but to the steady and constantly brightening developments of Providence. It is from these we are to draw our conclusions, and from these we are to derive encouragement, and not from an arm of flesh. Man is all the

time changing his position on this question. At one time all Europe, and a part of the few that were in America, were ready to go to Africa for slaves. Then all Europe and a large part of the many in America, said it was wrong to enslave Africa's sons even to Christian masters. And now that cotton is scarce and high, and that more laborers are needed in its fields, to augment the yield and fill the planter's purse with more of this world's needful, and that trade and commerce may derive benefit thereby; many, on both sides of the water, are not so certain but that "Africa may derive great benefit from having her children brought to the cotton fields of Europe and America." Now were we to attempt to arrive at conclusions relative to the interests of Africa from these and other changes that have come over the public mind for the last few generations touching this people, we would be involved in difficulty. But not so with the indications of Providence. It has had but one voice upon this subject for the last two centuries. All its developments point in the same direction; and now, as clear as ever before, it declares to the patient observer, that He who is the desire of all nations is destined in due time to be enthroned in the hearts of this people, and they appear as His redeemed children.

I regard the indications in the North as quite encouraging latterly. They are turning their attention more than ever before to the cause of education among the Blacks—this is *doing something for them*. Then I see others are willing to bear a proportionate part of the expense of the emancipation of the slaves. This is a mistaken and gratuitous step. Still it speaks favorably. It shows that these men are in earnest to do something for the slaves, or rather that they are willing to do something to secure their emancipation. But

emancipation is not the thing we want now, and want most. It is the *qualification for this charge* and the *provision for the settlement and well being of the emancipated slaves*, that we want most. I verily believe (and I think I speak understandingly) that voluntary emancipation by the masters themselves will keep pace with the provisions for the settlement and necessary support of the liberated slaves. Masters generally have a becoming sympathy for their slaves, and feel sensibly the obligations resting upon them to care for their slaves; and they feel confident that to turn them loose unprovided for, would be placing them in a far worse condition than they are now in, and would do them great injustice. And to bear the expense both of emancipation and settlement is more than they feel willing to meet—*many of them*,—some go even thus far, as you know. But were the necessary provision made for the comfortable and appropriate settlement of the people and their transportation thither, I have no doubt but that the spirit of voluntary emancipation would keep pace with the provisions for the emancipated.

So then the policy for all the friends of African elevation and redemption is, first, to do all we can to improve the morals (or religion) and intellect of the negroes; and then provide for their return and settlement in their old home, or in some other suitable colony. More good, however, will be accomplished by their settlement in Africa than any where else: thus they will serve as dispensers of light and blessings among their darkened brethren. Would that those who manifest so much sympathy for the slaves of the South, but who pursue a different course in their desire to benefit them, could see things in their true light, and co-operate heartily with the true friends of the black man, &c.

I am still in my ministerial capacity, a

“servant of servants,” in this city. My charge is a prosperous and quite interesting one. During the past year we finished paying for our good brick house, except some additional improvements that have been made since. First and last, the house and fixtures cost the congregation but a little less than \$8,000. It will seat comfortably over 1,000 persons, and crammed as negroes can cram a house, it will hold 1,200.

The membership of the charge is about 750, nearly 200 of whom joined last year. Most of them were received from the world, and happily converted from the error of their way and the power of the wicked One.

Now that they are through paying for their house, they will be able to meet the expense of the station, which is, all told, about \$1,200, by their own resources. I might say much in commendation of the intelligence and piety of this charge, but it might be construed into vain boasting. Suffice it to say, they are, under the blessing of the Almighty, doing much to elevate the morals and character of the blacks in this city and its vicinity. And while I am laboring for and co-operating with this people, (I mean the blacks of the South,) I feel that I am doing much more for them than are those loud sympathisers with the blacks, who do nothing either to improve their morals or minds, or to colonize them in Africa.

I have extended these reflections far beyond what was expected at first, but never having written you at length previously, it may be all right.

Alluding to the views expressed in the preceding letter, under date of February 16th the writer says:

The views relative to emancipation and the ultimate elevation of Africa, are such as are held by most ministers and a great

majority of the thinking men of my acquaintance, and I suppose of the country at large.

The prevailing impression among us is, that the impulse which was given to the dissemination of light and truth during the sixteenth century, that was further developed in the establishment of our government, both church and state, and that is being still further developed and disseminated every day—is to go on in its redeeming and elevating influences, till the whole lump of humanity is to be enlightened and relieved from barbarism and misrule. And as all nations and people are to be partakers of these benefits, the Africans must come in for their share. But whether or not slavery is to be abolished from the face of the earth, as some suppose, we leave that an open question. It is quite apparent to us that African slavery in the United States is and has been an agent of Divine Providence in securing great good to the slaves themselves, and for the ultimate enlightenment of their mother country. That is, we think that Africa is to be enlightened mainly through her returning and christian children. And after that Providence shall have accomplished its desires through this institution, we have no objections to its being abolished entirely—*none; no, none*. For the present, however, we deem it to be our duty to let the work of indiscriminate emancipation alone, and to do all we can to improve the morals and piety of both master and slave. Knowing that if they enjoy the liberty “where-with Christ doth make free,” they will soon be relieved from both their nominal and real bondage to man. One of my most intelligent colored men remarked a few Sabbaths ago, after I had closed a discourse on the triumphs and rewards of the good man, “That’s the emancipation for me!” So feel thousands of our South-

ern slaves:—the liberty of Christ is all the liberty they care for.

The enclosed extract is from the *Mobile Daily Tribune*; and though its statistics fall far short of the number engaged among the various denominations of christians who are laboring for the good of the blacks, still it gives a good idea of the operations of christians and owners in this field of missionary work. I could give you the statistics of our church, (the Methodist Church,) on this subject, but I suppose you are posted up on this point.

Should you at any time desire information on any point connected with the cause, and will let me know, I will take great pleasure in furnishing it if I can. Most of my labors for sixteen years have been for and with the Africans, and I suppose my remaining days will be spent mostly in this department of ministerial labor. Had circumstances allowed it, I would have been in Africa before now; but may be I am laboring as appropriately as though I were in Africa’s wilds. I know a good work is being done in this State. When I entered the Conference, there was one established mission in its bounds; two more were organized that year (1842:) My own work increased an hundred-fold the first year. And now the Conference numbers thirty missions to the people of color exclusively; and the work is prospering more or less in all the Southern Conferences. I might say more, but will close, lest I trespass upon either your feelings or time.

The Lord bless and keep you forever.

[From the *Mobile Daily Tribune*.]

IMPROVEMENT OF THE BLACKS.

Few persons are aware of the efforts that are continually in progress, in a quiet way, in the various Southern States, for the moral and religious improvement of the negroes—of the number of clergymen of good families, accomplished education, and often of a high degree of talent, who devote their whole time and energies to this work; or of the many laymen—almost

invariably slaveholders themselves—who sustain them by their purses and by their assistance as catechists, Sunday school teachers, and the like. These men do not make platform speeches, or talk in public on the subject of their “mission,” or theorize about the “planes” on which they stand: they are too busy for this, but they work on quietly in labor and self-denial, looking for a sort of reward very different from the applause bestowed upon stump agitators. Their work is a much less noisy one, but its results will be far more momentous.

We have very limited information on this subject, for the very reasons just mentioned, but enough to give some idea of the zeal with which these labors are prosecuted by the various christian denominations. Thus, among the Old School Presbyterians it is stated that about one hundred ministers are engaged in the religious instruction of the negroes exclusively. In South Carolina alone there are forty-five churches or chapels of the Episcopal Church, appropriated exclusiv-

ly to negroes; thirteen clergymen devote to them their whole time, and twenty-seven a portion of it; and one hundred and fifty persons of the same faith are engaged in imparting to them catechetical instruction. There are other States which would furnish similar statistics if they could be obtained.

It is in view of such facts as these, that one of our cotemporaries, (the Philadelphia Inquirer,) though not free from a certain degree of anti-slavery proclivity, makes the following candid admission:

“The introduction of African slavery into the colonies of North America, though doubtless brought about by wicked means, may in the end accomplish great good to Africa; a good, perhaps, to be effected in no other way. Hundreds and thousands have already been saved, temporally and spiritually, who otherwise must have perished. Through these and their descendants it is that civilization and christianity have been sent back to the perishing millions of Africa.”

Letter from Rev. W. H. Clark, Missionary in Yoruba.

THE following letter from a distinguished Missionary of the Southern Baptist Board of Missions, now residing in Yoruba, near the Niger, is full of interest. The statements of Mr. Clark are in agreement with those of the Rev. Mr. Bowen, whose book and speeches have justly attracted so much attention.

OGBOMASHAW, CENTRAL AFRICA,

December 18, 1857.

To the Rev. R. R. Gurley:

MY DEAR SIR:—Strangers may sometimes communicate on matters of general importance without any special acquaintance. This is my apology for troubling you at this time. There is a subject, of no little interest, dear to yourself and every well-wisher of the African race, I have been anxious to agitate, and have only waited a suitable opportunity to take the initiatory step. Since my residence in

Africa, (this now my fourth year,) I have often thought of the destiny of the colored race of America, and their future influence on the millions of this benighted land; scarce doubting but in the Providence of God, the way would, some day, be opened for a mighty civilizing and christianizing influence on these interior kingdoms of Africa. Powerful as is the influence of Liberia for good, and destined as it may be to exert the controlling power over Western Africa, it can never meet the pressing demands of the heart of this country. The success of the young Republic, under circumstances, too, so unfavorable to its growth and development, is no longer a question. The solution of this important problem furnishes the data from which we may solve another, on a far more extensive scale, in the very heart of this wide-spread continent. The reason for silence on this subject, viz., the want of a suitable interior field for colonization, no longer remains; and at the

earliest opportunity, I take the privilege of laying before you the result of my recent efforts, and submitting my impressions thereon. I have just returned from a preaching and exploring tour to the eastern parts of Yoruba, the kingdom of Ijesha, the kingdom of Igbona, the Nufi kingdom, and to the Niger. It has been my object for sometime to form the connection between Yoruba and the Niger, and thus prove the practicability of advancing in that direction. I have taken the step with the most satisfactory result, having reached the Niger at the village of Fouga, on Friday morning, December 11. On leaving home, I had been informed by Lieutenant May, en route for Lagos, of the rather distressing state of the present Niger Expedition, of which he is a member, in the disabling of their steamer, the Dayspring. I determined, therefore, to make this point of the Niger. I spent two days with the company, gathering what information I was able, and then left for home, to descend this magnificent river for twelve or fifteen miles, and repass over one of the finest valleys the world can boast. On my return, as I looked with so much pleasure on this beautiful bottom of light alluvial, many parts of which are burdened with grain, the fruit of the laborer, the thought entered my mind, with increasing power, What a field for American colonization of colored people! What I had looked for in Africa I clearly saw, and the theory immediately began to assume the phase of practicability. What I imagined, and hoped *could be done*, I clearly saw *would be done*; and *whenever* the true friends of the colored man in Africa and America had the facts laid clearly before them. Listen, then, to the facts of the case:

Here, in the interior of Africa, runs a magnificent river, pure and clear as brook water, and with a width, 600 miles from

its mouth, varying from a half to three-quarters of a mile. The country at this point is high and elevated, in the valleys fertile, and with a general appearance most indicative of health. The navigation of this river is no longer a question; and to render it navigable at all seasons of the year, for a few days journey above this point, only requires a little experience and acquaintance with the channels. Every member of the present expedition sees now very clearly how this sad loss of their vessel might have been avoided, by taking the stream which Captain Becroft came up, but they learned it too late. This is the second expedition of Dr. Baikie, both of marked success, having lost only two men in both explorations. From what I see of the river, its size, and placidity, to extreme, I have no doubt but its navigation is a matter of slight moment. The only question is as to the size and kind of vessels to be used. An experienced navigator of our American rivers would have scarcely any doubt as to success, provided the vessel did not draw over five feet of water. From the river, turn your attention to that beautiful, elevated valley, lying on the western bank, and extending for miles down the river, with a back country, open, healthy and productive;—covered with the shea butter tree, and sufficiently open to admit of immediate cultivation, the settler would have but little to do, other than put his hands to the plow, and his children to the butter tree, to secure a competent support. The fertility of the valley cannot be doubted: yams, rice, corn, Indian and varieties of the Guinea, and sugar cane, besides other grains, can be produced to an unlimited extent. The harvests of Guinea corn, here, surpass anything in richness I have seen in Africa; and a yam, weighing 32 lbs., was brought to the English encampment, besides many others something smaller. I saw in this bottom a beautiful opening,

covered with grass, and containing, I suppose, a thousand acres, that would produce rice sufficient for the whole population of Yoruba. The morning I rode through it, for two hours and a half, was delightful, though biting cold, and bracing to the system. The thermometer descends as low as sixty degrees; and I doubt not, during the severest harmattans, would reach fifty. Now a colony in such a country as this could but be successful, and the glorious harbinger of Africa's redemption. The mere valley itself would support hundreds of thousands of people, to say nothing of that extensive, open country lying to the westward.

These are the facts of the case, now as to the practicability of Colonization. As I have already remarked, before reaching the Niger, this was *the one question* to be solved. In Yoruba, amid a heavy population, I saw a colony would be quite at the mercy of the people; and in the event of a collision would be swept off. *Here* it is very different. On the western side of the river lies a strip of the Nufi kingdom, backed by a country whose population is very sparse; indeed for several days' journey there is no population at all. This is the country, it would seem, that kind Providence has designated as the future home of many colored colonists. They could land immediately at their doors, in a high, healthy, promising country, and commence those efforts for Africa's improvement, that must spread from this centre to its extremities. A purchase

of said territory, so situated as to prevent collision with surrounding tribes, and treaties of peace and commerce with neighboring kingdoms, would give such security to a colony that its growth and success would not, for a moment, admit of doubt. The steamers from America and England, that would continually ply this river, would add additional security, and in a few years would enable a pure civilization to make aggressive steps towards reclaiming this country from its barbarous state. And, my dear sir, can you not foresee what would be the glorious conquests of our holy and blessed religion? For this I write. The Niger must be explored. The Colonization Society must send its deputation to this very spot. *A colony we shall have*, that shall prove Heaven's blessing to the kingdoms of Soudan. Let Liberia go on and prosper; but we must have, we shall have, God will place a colony for his own glorious purposes, in the valley of the Niger. To you I now write, as one most suitable to agitate this question—hoping soon to publish my little journal, from which you can obtain full information. But remember there are some who will not be silent on this subject, while they have tongues to speak and pens to write.

Truly yours,

W. H. CLARK,
Missionary S. B. B.

N. B.—In the course of six months, I hope to be in America, to advocate the measure herein proposed. In great haste.

W. H. C.

[Continued.]

Voyage to Liberia.

BY DR. JAMES HALL.

MONROVIA RECEPTACLE—STREETS—WATER SIDE—WHARVES—BEACH AND BAR LANDING
—EMIGRANTS FOR THE INTERIOR, &c.

In our last we gave some brief impressions of Monrovia, in comparison with former years, closing with a Sunday's stroll through the town, after forenoon service at church. When passing the President's mansion, we could not forbear making a brief call, although

out of time, to pay our respects to the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, and to greet an old friend and business correspondent. We were most kindly and cordially received, and our apologies for the untimely intrusion declared quiet satisfactory. We found Mr. Benson, as President, what we expected, a courtly, dignified, modest gentleman. Our call was very short, making it as intended, one of respect. We also, in like manner, called on the retired President, Roberts, and received from him a warm greeting and hearty welcome to Liberia. In the afternoon, we visited the Receptacle for new emigrants, located in the east part of the town, on an eminence overlooking Mesurado and Stockton rivers and the immense mangrove marshes through which these sluggish streams flow and ebb. The building itself, like that at Cape Mount, is admirably adapted to the purposes intended, and seemed to be under good management, although no little confusion prevailed in consequence of the emigrants having been hurriedly bundled into it only the afternoon previous. The location of this Receptacle at Monrovia, we think, is deeply to be regretted. However invidious the remark may be, and unwelcome to its citizens, it has long been our conviction that Monrovia is the most unhealthy settlement in Liberia. It was so considered in Ashmun's day, before the leeward settlements were established, and he hesitated not to declare that he found Caldwell decidedly more salubrious. On our first arrival at Monrovia in 1831, we found a well constructed Receptacle there, capable of containing some thirty or forty people, entirely untenanted—the reason given by Gov. Meehlin and Dr. Todson was, that acclimation was much more safe on the St.

Paul's, even in thatched and wattled Receptacles. It may be alledged that clearing up the forest and settlement of the town must have produced a change; possibly it may have done so in some parts, but not where the Receptacle is located. It stands on a rocky prominence overhanging the Mesurado river, and as far as the eye can reach from N. W. to E. and S. E. an entire half circle, nothing is to be seen but the untilled lands of Bushrod island, and the mangrove marshes between the Stockton and Mesurado, for miles in breadth, and over which sweeps the land breeze, fraught with whatever may be the cause of the African coast fever. It is absurd to say that improvements have or can for years change the character of these exhalations, or render the location of the Receptacle a salubrious one. But independent of all this, we maintain that the location of a Receptacle at Monrovia was very injudicious. Probably, four-fifths, and even a greater proportion of emigrants to Liberia, are intended and fitted only for farmers—tillers of the soil. The Society supports them for six months, during which time they are generally supposed to be more or less indisposed, sick, undergoing the acclimating process, but yet most of the time able to do something for themselves. But what can they do, pent up on this rock, imprisoned on this St. Helena? Their farm lands are from ten to fifteen miles distant, and can be reached only by boats or canoes. The people are poor, have no means of getting either, and if they had, at least two-thirds of the day would necessarily be spent in getting to and fro, exposed in their passage to the stagnant air of the tortuous Stockton creek, and the rays of the sun, worn out by the exertion of rowing or paddling. The inevitable

ble result of putting poor emigrants, intended for farm labor, in Monrovia, is to induce indolent habits, to accustom them to bad associates, the loungers, always abounding in large towns, and to make them discontented and heart-broken: by the time their six months expires, they are unfitted for any thing but to go out to service, or beg in the streets of that town. This opinion is not speculative, it is the result of experience, the opinion of the emigrants themselves, and one which they express, often in sad terms. The emigrants by our ship who were located here, at once saw the impracticability of getting along, and besought the Agent, Mr. Dennis, to remove them up the river, near their lands, that they might be able to do something for themselves, during the six months of their acclimation, and have some food growing in the earth for support, after the Society's rations were expended. Arrangements were made to this effect, and shortly the Receptacle was nearly vacated.

If it is said in reply, that the Receptacle is needed for a class who wish to settle in towns, mechanics, traders, and the like, we answer, that this class of people generally will not go to a common emigrant's Receptacle, they prefer to hire houses for themselves. And for the few who are willing to receive the Society's bounty in house-hire, cheap tenements can readily be obtained. As the building has been located here, so probably it will remain, but it had better remain tenantless, than filled with those intended for farming districts.

After leaving the Receptacle we passed through the less populous parts of the town, and found them about the same as in olden time; some improvement to be sure, but not up to our anticipations and

hopes. As before remarked, there is an apparent lack of thrift and tidiness, in the appearance of the streets, little or nothing seems to have been done, or is doing, for the general appearance of the town, outside of enclosures. Little labor and expense would keep the streets clean of bushes and weeds, would increase the extent of the side walks or paths, and widen some of those already formed, and with a little concert of action among the more wealthy, without municipal taxation, orange and other tropical fruit trees might be made to line each side of their wide grassy avenues. But some improvement should be made at all hazards, even by direct taxation—particularly the pass ways, for we can term them nothing else, from the river side to the town. The main business of Monrovia, viz. all the shipping, commission and wholesale business, is done on the river side, where their small vessels lie. All approach to the town too, from all parts of Mesurado County, New Georgia, Caldwell, Clay Ashland and Millsburg, is from the river, above which, the town is elevated some one or two hundred feet.—According to the plat of the town, some four or five streets should connect the river street with the higher part, and so they do in a certain manner, there being no obstructions in the way, but certain natural rocky formations which the Liberians seem loth to disturb. True, some of these streets are too steep to allow of much improvement, except by cutting steps in the rock, but one or two others have a very easy grade, and could with little expense be made pleasant and ornamental promenades. An attempt has been made with one, and the ascent is very easy, with due attention to your footing—but the others are mostly zigzag paths, worn by the feet, and

water in the rains, often to the depth of a foot below the turf and rock. On this side hill, or on its brow, are quite a number of well-built edifices, but it must have required some little engineering to have squared them to any streets, imaginary or real.

On the water side too, there is nothing like a street, or even a decent straight path, and but little attention appears to have been paid to a building line. At any rate, it seems so, but one cannot well judge, as the paths wind among rocks, trees and warehouses in labyrinthian tortuosities.

The wholesale dealers or commission merchants on the wharves, seem to have no signs, unless a huge pile of empty oil casks some tiers deep, may be considered such. These certainly constituted the most business-like feature of the place, especially where near enough to hear the music of the coopers setting them up. The warehouses are strong, and coarsely built of rough quarried rock, generally of one story, with a basement or cellar for camwood and palm oil. The wharves are generally very badly constructed of boulders and quarried stone, half tumbled down and most unfitted for receiving cargo, without injury to boats, parbuckled up as it is for want of a crane. In still water, like the Mesurado river, there is no objection to have good wharves of faced stone, and all should be furnished with good cranes for hoisting in and out cargo. The Society should certainly have one for its wharf, which, by the way, we think is the best one on the river; but in discharging some sugar-boilers at that, the ship's launch was considerably injured by being crushed against the undressed stone in parbuckling them out.

Although we have run into this digression on receptacles, streets, &c. from a Sunday's walk on shore, yet

we hope we shall not be considered as having gone through with it at the time. No, we had more pleasant employment, in receiving the greetings of the many friends we met in the course of our walk, and others who did us the favor of calling. Yet all was saddened by the constant remembrance of the many departed—by the changes which a quarter of a century had produced.

At sundown we repaired on board our good Ship, well prepared to enjoy a comfortable night's rocking—for to one entirely free from sea sickness, the gentle rolling of a vessel at anchor is by no means an unpleasant adjuvant to sleep. While at anchor at any one of the settlements the Ship was but little more than a night rocking cradle to our party, every day being spent on shore; and for a female to go on shore daily from a Ship in an open roadstead is a very different matter from stepping on a wharf, and being *hacked* up town. A word or two may with propriety be devoted to this *going ashore*. Let it be remembered that the poop deck of our Ship was some fifteen to eighteen feet from the water, that she was not "tied up along side the wharf," as sailors say, but quite free and easy in her motions, rolling just as she pleased, or as the sea willed. The clambering up and down the side, with ever so good a ladder, is out of the question for ladies. So like cargo, they have to be *hoisted* out, or as they say, *whipped* out. For which purpose a strong arm chair is usually prepared with lashings, so that a hook and tackle may be readily attached. Not having a chair on board of sufficient strength, our captain very ingeniously made a substitute of a barrel—part of one side being sawed off, and a sacking bottom fastened in. It made a very safe and comfortable vehicle. The

aeronaut gets in, and is well tucked up with the ship's ensign, of course, nothing else would do, the tackle hooked on and she is bowsed over the side, swinging clear of the ship, steered by hands and guys from the deck—she is lowered gently as possible into the boat, when, if no one else is ready, the officious kroomen unbundles the voyager, and she is safely lodged in the stern-sheets. So much for getting out of the vessel—the getting on shore is quite another thing.

There are two ways of landing at Monrovia. One on the beach under the Cape, which is somewhat protected from the swell; the other is through the bar in the river-mouth. In case one lands on the beach, the boat is not allowed to touch the shore. When near in, the kroomen put her about, stern on, part of them instantly jump out, often neck deep in the water, and seize the boat to keep her from broaching to, in this they are assisted by the two who still remain at their oars. The head boatman, or the tallest and most athletic, then seizes the passengers, one by one, and bears them safely on shore—sometimes in his arms, sometimes on his head and shoulders, according to the height and violence of the swell. This is considered the most safe way of reaching the shore—although for ladies a very disagreeable one—their dresses always being more or less deranged and injured, and not unfrequently a foot drops into the surf. After reaching the beach, there remains a long walk of a half mile or more—the first part, through deep yielding sand, then a good path to the hill, of which we have before spoken.

The river landing is attended with less fatigue, and disagreeable manoeuvres, but considerable danger; besides, the pull is a long one, especially if the tide is against you—but

with the tide and a smooth bar, at high water, it is not an unpleasant boat ride. The bar, as they call it, is where the sea-swell rolls into the river mouth—oftentimes, especially if the tide is running in, without breaking in the centre, or deepest water.—In which case the boat goes in with great celerity, impelled by the triple force of current, swell and oars. A shoot through the bar then is enjoyed vastly, especially by a stranger. But very different is the state of things when the current of the river comes rushing down—meeting the great in-rolling swell from the ocean—the low water on the bar, causing the swell to break far out, and then come tumbling in, overwhelming every thing in its passage. Then it is, that all the strength and skill of the kroomen is put in requisition to save the boat, the cargo and the passengers—and too frequently all is unavailing, the boat is capsized and filled, often going over and over—the cargo is scattered about on the boiling surf, and many a passenger has paid the forfeit of his temerity with his life. Oftentimes when the sea appears smooth and comparatively tranquil, the tide running in, and high water, a succession of heavy swells come rolling along unexpectedly, swamping the boat as easy as an egg shell. This was particularly the case with us one morning. Knowing that our party preferred the bar to the beach, and all appearances being favorable for a safe passage, we directed to pull into the river. All were busily engaged talking, and viewing the objects of interest in the river and town, when all at once, a signal from the boatmen, who, as they sit facing the rollers, gave the alarm. We looked back and saw a heavy swell just beginning to comb or curve under our stern. It was too late to back-water and it was too

near to escape before it broke. Our steersmen did not well manage the oar and the boat broaching to, we rolled in the hollow of the swell some hundred yards, the lee or shore gunwale of the boat being all but under water and our party barely able to keep from falling out. For seconds—and seconds are minutes in such times, we had no hopes of escape from a plunge, and a sorry plunge it would have been with that big boat top of us; but most miraculously we did escape, how we can scarcely say, the swell passed under, and we all but capsized, as we slid from the back of the savage roaring beast. No time was to be lost. Ocean swells, truly “come not singly but in battalions”—they march in tiers of three, each following the other, and generally with increasing height and force. Our kroomen, shouted *Baree!* and put to with might and main, and we had the satisfaction of seeing the fellows of our old wild horse break and howl impotently under our stern. But old Ocean’s mane is not to be toyed with. The effect of our escape did not soon pass away. Even to this hour, its remembrance causes a sense of uneasiness, not slight or agreeable. We have only spoken of the bar of the Mesurado River, but the remarks, for all purposes are applicable to those of all the rivers in the Liberia settlements. Those of Bassa and Gallinas, however, are the worst. At Gallinas, many a boat and canoe load of poor, fettered wretches have been swamped and swallowed up, first by the rollers and then by sharks. Among the many sacrifices in the Bassa Bar was the entire boat’s crew of one of the U. S. Frigates, the *Potomac* we think, nine in number. The *St. John’s* River, at that place rushes out between narrow sandbanks with great force, causing immense breakers far

out. Months not unfrequently elapse without a boat or canoe attempting to pass. The natives denominate it a “man bar,” all other bars in comparison being termed “woman bars.” But man or woman, did we never fear like the Bar-mouth of the *St. John’s*, at Bassa, for by man or woman never was our life so seriously threatened.

But to return to landing. Monday morning, January 26th, was our first business day on shore at Monrovia. It might be supposed that we had little to do with business, being but a passenger on a voyage of pleasure, but somehow business got hold of us, and we could not get out of its clutches. Many reasons demanded dispatch in the voyage. Expense of course always does—but we were out of time from our fixed period for sailing, November 1st, near forty days whence we left Cape Henry, then we had a long passage, for a clipper ship, and we must, if possible, get her home so that she could sail on her second voyage, on the first of May. Therefore, dispatch was the order of the day. By doing the shore business, it allowed the Captain to see to the discharge of cargo and things generally on board. So this part we took upon us—little labor to be sure—but enough to employ the mind and keep one from mischief. But with details of such matters we will not trouble our readers. The business of public interest was, the getting the candidates for the interior settlement well off before any one of them had been exposed to the night air on shore.

Mr. Dennis had promptly despatched a note to Mr. Seys, that the ship had arrived, having on board subjects for the experiment, all ready. On Tuesday, the 27th, we had the pleasure of grasping the hand of our old friend, and learned

from him how far he was in readiness to receive the people. All was right, apparently, except provisions, and for them and sundry other adjuncts, we took the liberty of drawing on the Treasurer of the Society, determined that nothing *moveable* should stand in the way of a fair trial of interior acclimation.

The morning of Thursday, the 29th, was fixed upon for the debarkation of the twenty-two pioneers of civilization, interior to Liberia. We spent the evening of the 28th in preparing medicines and condiments of various kinds for the next day's use, and in drilling them for the service. The object, as before explained, was to pass them through the Coast region without exposure to the night air; the fact being well established that the African Coast fever can never be contracted by any exposure in the day time. Therefore, it was important to set off at day-light, to get as far as possible before night. Then, in order to shield them from any malarious or animalcular influence during the night of the journey, it was desirable to put them under the influence of quinine, which is known to be an antidote or preventive of the fever. We therefore provided Mr. Douglass, the leader, with a quantity of quinine pills, with definite instructions how to administer them, the indications of their influence on the system, &c. They all turned in for the night, sober and thoughtful, deeply impressed with the importance of their undertaking, both to themselves and to their new country. It was no small matter for a handful of liberated plantation slaves, already transported thousands of miles from their American homes, to land on a new Continent, and then leave the feeble civilization skirting its borders and penetrate into the almost untracked wilderness, among hordes of naked

barbarians; there voluntarily to imprison themselves for one year, mainly to test a principle or experiment, however important it might be to the world, their country, or themselves. This, too, be it remembered, was a voluntary act, no force, compulsion or bribery. Merely a true statement of the object of the undertaking and a promise of fair treatment, and the usual allowance to emigrants, which they had a right to claim, land them where we would. We shall ever remember with respect and kind feelings the leaders of this Expedition. Douglass and Barrett with their wives and children, Old Abel Garner, a true patriot and patriarch, and the young volunteers their former fellow-servants.

Early on the morning of the 29th, breakfast was served and we all put off for the shore, found Mr. Seys, as usual ever prompt and punctual, with his three boats, attendants and multitudinous baggage, in waiting, to which all hands were quickly transferred, and before eight o'clock we had the pleasure of seeing them all pulling away up the Stockton Creek for the St. Paul's. We may here as well state what has been, up to this time, the result of this experiment. The emigrants stayed over night about 25 miles from Monrovia, near the St. Paul's River—the next day, January 30th, they reached their place of destination, Mr. Fawblee, or Careysburg. While on the Coast, our last advices from them bore date March 12th, at which time but one had sickened from any cause, and that was of so slight a character, that it could scarcely be considered the coast fever. In Mr. Seys' Report to the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society, in the pages of our present No. he says, "The original twenty-two pioneers, men, women and children, who

arrived on the Mount January 30th, were all alive and well on the 11th September, the date of my last advices. Of the thirty-four or five who had suffered much from the fever on the lower lands along the St. Paul's, and who took refuge in our mountain settlement, all whom I left there have recovered, save one young woman who died of pleurisy."

With such results of our first experiment, we may reasonably hope that a new era is to dawn upon African Colonization, for, notwithstanding all that has been said of abolition opposition, the aversion of the colored people to emigrate, their

willingness and fitness to remain in a state of servitude, and social and political degradation—the true cause why they have not emigrated by thousands and tens of thousands, is, the insalubrity of the coast settlements in Liberia, and of the whole coast line of tropical Africa. The fact once well established that the interior settlements are free from this pest, there will be no lack of emigration. The causes which shall induce the Society to place more emigrants on the seaboard, instead of the interior, must be very weighty—for great will be their responsibility.

Return of the Mary Caroline Stevens.

THE Society's Ship, the M. C. Stevens, Capt. Heaps, left Monrovia February 3d, and made Cape Henry Light March 20th, and cast anchor in Baltimore on Monday, March 22d. In the cabin were the Rev. Alexander M. Cowan, Agent of the Colonization Society of Kentucky, having visited Liberia to observe the condition and prospects of that Republic; Dr. Laing, one of the physicians in the service of the Society; Mr. T. M. Chester, recently principal teacher in the Receptacle at Cape Mount; and Mr. H. Kemp, connected with trade in Monrovia; and in the steerage 20 individuals, some to remain, and others on business and soon to return.

The U. S. ship Vincennes, for Cape Palmas, sailed from Monrovia on the 27th of January—officers and crew all well. The M. C

Stevens brought a letter-bag from the Vincennes. Everything was quiet on the coast.

Trade is represented as dull: agriculture as improving. The Legislature met on the 7th of December, and closed its proceedings on the 23d of January. The emigrants, by the Stevens, (as stated last month) had been safely landed; and many expressed themselves pleased with their homes and prospects. Dr. Laing states that at Monrovia the emigrants were all well. Mr. Cowan was much impressed with the fertility and resources of Liberia, and thinks an industrious, enterprising and energetic people could not fail to convert these resources into means of prosperity and wealth.

We give the following from a letter to the Baltimore American, dated Monrovia, February 2d, 1858:

"With the exception of a slight financial embarrassment, the affairs of government are moving on prosperously. Our President, S. A. Benson, possesses in an eminent degree, the ability and qualification to administer public affairs; and by his urbanity and courtesy has rendered himself emphatically the people's President. He encourages, by every advisable means, the development of the country's resources; and by precept and example—being himself a practical farmer—he excites the people to generous rivalry in agricultural pursuits, so that this branch of industry has received an impetus greater than has ever been experienced previously.

"The St. Paul's river exhibits the appearance of unusual activity; several large farms of sugar cane are being cut, keeping one small steam and three ox mills in constant operation. About one-half the cane cut from the farm of the late Mr. Richardson, has been ground, yielding 2,000 lbs. of sugar and about the same number of gallons of syrup."

The writer states that coffee is picked in abundance, but much is lost for want of suitable machinery to prepare it for market. Such machinery should be introduced without delay. He adds—

"A cotton farm has just been started on the Junk river by Hon. D. B. Warner; should it be successful there will be a large yield, which will doubtless induce others to make similar experiments.

"The corner stone of 'Liberia College' was laid January 25th, with the assistance of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Liberia and its subordinates. I have not seen a plan of the building, but judging from the extent of the foundation and such casual description as I could obtain from the builders, the edifice will be the most imposing in Liberia. There was great delay in selecting a suitable site, caused

chiefly by local interest and prejudice, but the final decision has located it in Monrovia, the policy of which has been doubted by many, the chief objection being that such an institution should not be situated near a large town.

"The Legislature adjourned January 23d. after a session of six weeks. One of the most important bills passed during the session related to the French plan of procuring emigrants from this coast. I am unable to give you a synopsis of the bill, as it has not been printed as yet, but the restrictions which it imposes will have the tendency to abolish the system from that part of the coast over which this government maintains jurisdiction. The course we have pursued in regard to this system has so affected the French Government towards us that she has retracted the gift of a sloop-of-war made some time since, although we had sent an agent to France to receive it according to agreement. But it is preferable to lose the vessel, which is much needed, than to be remiss in frowning down a system which has proved to possess but a very few more of the attributes of humanity than the slave trade.

"The Methodist denomination of Liberia, heretofore under the jurisdiction of the American Bishop, has increased in prosperity and importance to such an extent that it was deemed expedient to have a Bishop, especially for this country, one who was a citizen of the Republic and identified with the interests of the people; accordingly the Conference which has just adjourned elected to that position the Rev. Francis Burns. It is a judicious election, as Mr. Burns has been Superintendent of the Methodist Mission in Liberia for a long time, and no one is better acquainted than he with the condition and wants of this people. He expects to visit the United States during the ensuing summer for the purpose of being ordained."

We have many interesting letters,

but can publish but a few extracts in this number.

President Benson writes, under date of "Monrovia, Jan. 30, 1858:"

Your fine ship, the *M. C. Stevens*, is in port, homeward bound, and I embrace the opportunity of re-acknowledging your interesting favors by her, all of which have been perused and their contents duly noted. I perceive by yours, as well as other journals, that Liberia and the great Colonization cause have been malignantly and somewhat ingeniously attacked, by that unreasonable portion of the press of your country which invariably expects a demonstration of greater perfection in intelligence, morality and industry, in Liberia by Liberians, than they ever expect to witness in countries (including their own and themselves) which have had twenty times the advantage of Liberia to attain perfection, in those qualities. A single delinquency of annual occurrence in Liberia creates more pretended surprise and disrespectful animadversion among and by a class in the United States, than do the tens of thousands of similar daily occurrences among themselves, with all the advantages under which they have been raised.

I am happy to say that our public affairs are moving on as usual; some particulars of which you will have no doubt gathered from my Message to the Legislature on the 10th ult., copies of which I sent you via England per December mail. The report of the Adjudicating Committee of the National Fair, held in this city 14th—21st ult., is now in course of printing, in pamphlet form, a package of which I will send you by the *Stevens*, if the printer should finish timely. It has produced an almost magical effect upon the industrial skill and energy of our citizens; so much so, that the Legislature have made a standing arrangement for the holding of

them in succession in the different counties annually.

I have written to you twice recently on an important subject, and am waiting with some anxiety to hear from you.

I consider that we are now approximating nearer to substantial prosperity than ever. It is true, times are hard for money, and we sensibly feel the falling off of the oil trade the last year; yet after all, the people raise enough to eat, and the failure of the oil season, and other causes, have caused them not only to see the propriety of raising something for exportation, but they are actually preparing and commencing to do so; and if no untoward circumstance arise, I think you and other friends of this Republic will become increasingly gratified and encouraged annually, by authentic reports of manly progress in all those industrial pursuits that are so essential to individual and national prosperity. And if nothing but a temporary failure in the oil trade will induce some of our principal men to see the folly of basing our commerce upon what should be regarded as an auxiliary, instead of principal, commodity, if it is to be by his failure alone that they can be brought to see, feel, and act, that the American-Liberians are to be their own producers, and are not to depend upon the native Africans as such, otherwise than auxiliaries, then I hope that a blight may rest upon the palm tree, until they begin to practically demonstrate that this lesson is effectually learned. The more intelligent citizens are more than ever encouraged; and notwithstanding the tightness of the monetary market, and the great responsibility resting upon me, attended with a proportionate degree of cares and perplexity yet never was I more encouraged in my life than during the last eight months; for during the most gloomy times last year, I plainly recognised the hand of Providence: I knew it would all be for our good, individually and nationally.

The Financial Secretary, at the same time, Pres. Benson observes :

I have received and perused, with much pleasure, your favor of the 29th of October. I am much pleased to learn that my statements under date of 20th August, respecting the motives and intentions of the Legislature in their passage of the act entitled "An act providing for the formation of interior settlements," were satisfactory to you.

The act has not been repealed by the last Legislature. Mr. Dennis, your agent, who was chairman of the Committee on Colonization, in consultation with Mr. Paxton, another of your agents, thought it most judicious to make no report on that subject, but simply to let matters go on as they are, from the fact that not more than a sixth of the expense is being incurred that the act actually makes requisition for. It has been constantly reported to me for several months that it was impossible to obtain and retain the requisite number of volunteers there on the terms the act provides for. I learn that affairs are getting on promisingly up there. Mr. Paxton, your agent, just from there last evening, was at my office this morning, and informed me that he is shipping to the United States, per *M. C. Stevens*, some specimens of lumber from that settlement.

I perceive that our enemies have aroused themselves, within the last five months, to a renewed attack upon the Colonization Society and this Republic. Perhaps I differ from most persons, in that I hail with joy—abated only by considerations of the selfishness of the conduct of our immigrants—every renewed spasmodic effort of our enemies to misrepresent and injure us;—they may thereby check your progress for a few weeks or months, but a reaction will as assuredly take place as it is appointed that day succeeds night. Those spasmodic, malignant efforts, tend too to elicit the publication of encouraging facts con-

nected with Liberia and the Colonization cause that would have otherwise remained unknown.

Mr. W. H. Dennis, agent of the Society, has written a very interesting letter, dated Monrovia, January 30th, to the Financial Secretary, mostly on matters of business, but from which we are pleased to make the following extracts :

I am truly sorry to hear of the "*great financial crisis*" in your country. It affects us, even here, in this far off land. In consequence of it, the different missionary societies operating in Liberia have been compelled to curtail their appropriations. I regret very much to hear of its effects upon the receipts of the Colonization Society, especially at this time, when there is so much to be done. I hope the pressure will soon be over, and all get on in good order again. And I hope by this time that the effects of that report of "*a famine in Liberia*," are over. I am very sorry that Mr. ——— should have circulated such a thing. It is true that there was, at the time he wrote, a great scarcity of bread-stuffs, and many experienced some suffering—which was principally confined to that class of persons in our communities, who have no disposition to work or to provide for themselves. This scarcity has been and will be a blessing to us,—for many who had hitherto neglected the cultivation of the soil, have gone heartily into it; and those who had, have enlarged their operations. We begin to see that after all our true interest and independence as a people lies in the cultivation of the soil. It seems that Providence is so ordering things, that we are obliged to look to the soil. Palm oil, camwood and ivory, (hitherto our principal articles of export,) have failed; our traffic with the natives is growing very limited, and specie being a scarce article, we are not able to buy much foreign production.

The National Fair, held in this town last month, exceeded every thing I have witnessed in Liberia. The different specimens of home productions exhibited, were beyond my most sanguine expectations. Every body seemed to be agreeably disappointed. The fair was held for one week; all went away both satisfied and encouraged. I look upon it as the ushering in of better times for Liberia.

Miss ——— has been making great music in the Receptacle, with her piano and her organ. It being a novel thing to see and hear such in Liberia, persons of all classes have thronged there, to hear the music, and she seems to take pleasure in playing for them.

A large portion of the materials for the College have been carried to the grounds, and the building is now in the course of erection. The corner-stone was laid some

days ago, with great ceremony. The President and his Cabinet, the Board of Trustees of the College, the officers of the city government, the members of the Liberia Annual Conference of the M. E. Church—it being in session at the time, the ministers of other denominations, the Masons, one or two military companies, with music, and a large number of ladies, gentlemen, and children, all turned out on the occasion: Two fine addresses were delivered on the grounds, by the Hon. D. B. Warner and the Rev. J. S. Payne.

It was indeed sad news to us, to hear of Dr. Lugenbeel's death. He was much beloved by all who knew him, and is much lamented. It was a great affliction to you to lose him, and his valuable services; but it is gratifying to know, that his end was peace, that he has gone from works to reward.

[From the Newark Daily Advertiser.]

New Jersey Colonization Society.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the New Jersey Colonization Society was held in the Third Presbyterian Church, Newark, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 24th, and was attended by a large audience, including many of the clergy and prominent citizens. Hon. Joseph C. Hornblower, President of the Society, presided, assisted by Hon. Dudley S. Gregory and Dr. J. G. Goble. The exercises commenced with a prayer by Rev. D. D. Lore, followed by the annual report, which was read by Dr. J. G. Goble, the Secretary of the Society.

The receipts during the year have been \$1,865 27. The expenditures, office rent, advertising, printing annual report, \$299.52. \$1,565 have been forwarded to the National Society. The plan adopted last year for raising funds is again recommended by the Society. This plan is to solicit the aid of all the evangelical churches throughout the State, and to urge upon their respective pastors, to place colonization first on the list of benevolent objects and take up an annual collection, as near as may be convenient, the first Sabbath in July.

Rev. J. B. Pinney, Ex-Gov. of Liberia,

was the first speaker. He thought the report did not enlarge enough. Three millions of slaves and half a million of free colored men in this country are but a handful, and were they all to perish, the great work of benefitting the African race would still remain and interest philanthropic minds. He was an advocate of the Colonization Society, defending it at the North and South, because of its enormous value in the great work of the civilization of Africa. The slave trade was the first barrier to colonization and missionary effort when this movement commenced; it threw the country into warfare, villages were burned and missionaries could not collect audiences to hear them, owing to the unsettled state of the country. Over 300 villages had been destroyed, and the inmates either slain or carried into captivity. We need all along the coast to plant settlements like Liberia, and he believed that if 10,000 colored men would plant villages there, they could do more good than all the missionaries. Gov. Pinney closed his remarks with a hope that our own agitation concerning the colored people might be quieted, and God hasten the day when Africa and America

shall solve the problem of America in Africa.

Hon. Wm. C. Alexander, of Princeton, followed. He said he regarded the society as already established and the work in process of accomplishment; he came not to animate the battle but to chaunt the triumph. During the World's Fair at New York, his attention had been attracted to a small case, containing various articles, labelled "Liberia," and he then remembered how, on Dec. 5th, 1821, two white men from New Jersey purchased, with a few beads and trinkets, the ground now occupied by Liberia, which is taking her place among the nations of the world. He proposed to consider briefly the past history, present condition and ultimate destiny of the African race, which has paramount claims upon the American people. The speaker referred first to the American society which was originated in Washington in 1816. A few men met in a parlor and laid the foundation of an empire. There were Clay, Webster, Randolph, the Lees and other strong men who, though ambitious and aspiring politicians, did not hesitate to stake their reputation for sagacity upon a project which was pronounced by the vast majority as chimerical, and they boldly advocated its claims in public. The noble band was sent out to establish the empire, and when misadventure struck them down, Henry Clay compared them to our forefathers, who, on New England's bleak shores suffered, but ultimately succeeded. Many who participated in those early days of the society, are still alive.

Mr. Alexander then proceeded to deny the doctrine that all men were free and equal. The serf of Russia and the colored man of Africa are not equal to the Anglo Saxon: you cannot make the black an equal in this country, either socially or politically, and if they ever obtain a position it must be in some other place, and philanthropy cannot alter this. The race is tied down not only by prejudice, but by legal and conventional restraints, and they cannot stem the current which beats against them. Whether this be right or wrong he would not argue; but it is so, and we must take facts. Even in this age of progress, when women ask equal rights with man, if any State should ask the equality of the colored race, it would always be overwhelmed by the popular voice. In other countries, serfs are of the same color, and may, after obtaining freedom, by intermingling with the higher classes, lose their identity, but here they

are of a different color and character, and cannot be united. You may enact laws to free him, you may educate him, but never can he associate with the white man; the barrier of public opinion stands in the way and places him in a position midway between the slave and the white man, whereby he experiences all the evils of both classes, and only partakes slightly of the benefits of either.

The only thing, therefore, to be done, is to restore him to his native land, where he may occupy a position. It is gratifying to think that the same ocean that bore the first slave to America, bears his descendants back to Africa, where they have established an empire—a movement without a precedent in the world. Who, then, will say this Society has no claim upon the American people? Founded on the principle of no interference between the master and slave, it has done more good than all the abolition societies in the world can do, unless by dishonesty and bloodshed.

The speaker then alluded to the keen sense of the evils of slavery those feel who dwell among it. He referred to the proud position of Liberia with its arts and sciences, its flag recognized among nations, and with a trade amounting to millions. This is the home that is offered to the colored man for his present position, and he has the knowledge when he dies that he leaves his children freemen in a free land, and in the land of his fathers, where they can obtain all the attributes of manhood and freedom.

The speaker then drew a touching scene of the horrors of the slave traffic; of the native wars instigated by white traders, in which the strong man was surprised, and the defenceless and naked were seized; of the middle passages by which one-fourth of the load perished; of the vain attempts of the nations to suppress it by law and treaty with armed cruisers. Liberia has done more to suppress the slave trade than all the armed nations of the world. How wonderful, then, that those men whose ancestors were the victims of the slave trade, should now cross the Atlantic and establish settlements which should put down the traffic.

The speaker concluded his remarks, which were very eloquent, by an allusion to Ashmun of this State, one of the early missionaries of the Society in Africa.

Mr. Bowen, of the Baptist African Mission, followed. He had been exploring Africa, and returned a strong advocate of Colonization, as a Christian,

philanthropic, and commercial enterprise. He said that if Africa produced cotton or Palm Oil, it would repay us all our trouble and expense.

Rev. J. Seys, of the Methodist Mission, made a speech, reciting the difficulties of establishing missions, &c., the peculiarities of the people, &c.

A collection was then taken, amount-

ing to \$125, and after a hymn, the meeting was dismissed with a benediction by Rev. Dr. Abeel.

The old Board of Managers and Officers of the Society were re-elected. The four vacancies in the Board were filled with the following gentlemen: Rev. D. D. Lore, Rev. David Riddle, D. D., Halseer, Esq., Rev. Henry B. Sherman.

Abstract of the Annual Report of the Col. Society of Virginia for 1857.

The following are the leading facts and figures in this important document:

The Colonization Society is a response to repeated demands of the General Assembly of Virginia for an asylum for free negroes, &c. These demands were made in 1802, 1804, and 1816. Up to this date there had been no Colonization Society. The American Colonization Society was organized in January, 1817, in response to these demands. The Presidents of that Society have been Judge Washington, Charles Carroll, James Madison, Henry Clay, &c. The Virginia Society's Presidents have been Judge Marshall, Governor Tyler, and Governor Floyd.

The General Assembly of Virginia in 1825 and 1828 appropriated implements of agriculture and clothing to the colonists from this State. In 1837 it appropriated eighteen thousand dollars for colonizing free negroes, but the act was so clogged with restrictions that the Society did not apply for it. In 1853 the act now in operation was passed. The whole number of emigrants to Liberia from the United States is about ten thousand. The whole number of emigrants from Virginia is three thousand five hundred, and yet less than twenty-five thousand dollars is the whole sum the Society has drawn from the State treasury toward the several acts. The balance of cost of transporting three thousand five hundred has been paid by private donations.

The revenue of the Parent Society in 1857 was \$97,500 75, of which \$15,000 was the gift of a single planter in Mississippi. The revenue of the Virginia Society in 1857, was \$7,900. The emigration was smaller than usual, owing to the rumors about a famine in Liberia, which was only a *scarcity*, such as is incident to all countries, and which, in this case, was occasioned by a failure of the rice crop, and the withdrawal of many Liberians from agriculture, at a busy season, to repel the aggressions of some hostile tribes, &c. The number of emigrants in 1857 were 424, of whom 136 were from Virginia. The chief difficulty the Society

has to encounter, is the unhealthiness of the tropics to emigrants from a temperate climate. This fact interdicts the land to the white man as a home. But Africa is the natural cradle of the negro race, and the mortality has not exceeded that attending the colonization of this country at Jamestown and Plymouth. A new settlement, called Careyburg, named after a negro from Richmond, has been established in the mountains of Liberia, where, in twelve months, not one of the pioneer emigrants has died. The report cites the written testimony of Commodores Stockton, Perry, Lavalette, Mayo, &c., and of Captains Marston, Rudd, and other naval officers, as to general tone of contentment and well-being among the colonists. It also cites Captain Lynch, and Messrs. Gurley, Plamey, Lugenbeel, Foote, &c., as to the general condition and prospects of the colonies; it refers to verbal statements of Rev. Messrs. Seys and Bowen, made here in public, upon all the points at issue. * *

The free negroes of this country seem to be the chosen instruments to carry back Christianity to those who cannot obtain it.

Officers of the Society for 1858:

President, John Rutherford.

Vice Presidents, Gov. Wise, W. H. McFarland, Judge Moncre, James C. Bruce, Alexander Stuart, Judge Caskie, Judge Tyler, Wyndham Robertson, John H. Coker, &c.

Managers, P. V. Daniel, jr., P. R. Gratton, John O. Steger, John Howard, Jas. Thomas, jr., Dr. W. H. Gwathmey, G. W. Randolph, M. Greter, R. Whitfield, Samuel Putney, Dr. Palmer, Dr. Parker, James Dundop, W. H. Haxall, J. P. Taylor, John M. Patton, jr., Philip Price, Nicholas Mills, and Fleming James.

Secretary, Frederick Bransford.

Treasurer, Thomas H. Ellis.

Chief Superintendent, Rev. P. Slaughter.

Agent for Emigrants, Rev. W. H. Starr.

We regret to learn that the bill appropriating a certain amount to the cause of African Colonization, has been lost in the Senate of Virginia. But we are confident the good people of Virginia will never desert the cause.

Report of the Board of Managers of the Maryland State Col. Society,

1st JANUARY, 1858.

THE Managers of this able Report give account of the war between the colonists and the native tribes of Cape Palmas, which led to a unanimous vote of the people of that colony to seek annexation to the Republic of Liberia, which resulted in their incorporation as one of its counties into that Republic. Though looking to some future political organization, more in accordance with our own political confederacy, the Board say: "But as in the opinion of the people themselves the time for this has at any rate not yet arrived, we think that our former colonists have acted wisely in taking the course they have done."

This Report very justly notices the generous donation by Mr. John Stevens, of Talbot Co., Md., of thirty-seven thousand dollars, for the construction of a ship, the *Mary Caroline Stevens*, for the American Colonization Society, then on her third voyage to Liberia—and admirably adapted for the purposes for which she was given. The Managers add:

"As the State of Maryland has done more for Colonization than any other State of the Union, we have the proud satisfaction now to record the name of John Stevens, a citizen of Maryland, as that of the individual whose donation to the cause far exceeded at the time it was made, the amount of any other that had then been realized. Others had devoted property, to be appropriated to the cause after their death, but Mr. Stevens was the first to give such an amount during his life; nor does it diminish the lustre of his munificence, that his example has since been followed, and that the American Colonization Society have had gratefully to acknowledge a donation of even greater magnitude."

They further say—

"Maryland has always stood in the foremost rank of the supporters and advocates of Colonization. In 1831, she manifested a liberality of which there had been no previous example, and the course of policy then adopted she has continued

to pursue, with undeviating consistency. Nor has she been unsustained in her noble proceedings. One by one other States have avowed the same sentiments, and followed her example; and it is the proud boast of Colonizationists, that their objects commend themselves to the favor of all sections of the Union, and are recognized as entitled to the support, both of the North, and of the South. Among the slaveholding States, Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, and Kentucky, and among the non-slaveholding, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Connecticut and Iowa, have all, like Maryland, made liberal appropriations in support of Colonization.

"The appropriation made by the Act of 1852, ch. 202, expired with the year 1857; and upon the action of the Legislature at their present session, must in a great measure depend the future operations of this Society. The dissolution of our political relations with our former colony, has not affected our powers and privileges in reference to emigrants; as our right to send them, and to provide for them by adequate donations of land, are by the compact made with the State of Maryland in Liberia, and confirmed by the Republic of Liberia, expressly secured."

By the census of 1856, the free blacks in Maryland were 74,723. The Managers are confirmed in the belief that the time must soon come when they will see "that their comfort, if not the preservation of their race, will require them to seek homes elsewhere." They look back "with unmingled feelings of satisfaction, to the course pursued by our State; and rejoice in being able to point to an asylum secured by her liberality, where all of her colored population may be gladly welcomed—may permanently remain in peace and security—and where the career of advancement in every pursuit is thrown open to them with the most absolute and entire freedom. And having done thus much, we cannot for a moment suppose that Maryland will pause in her efforts, or will ever abandon the enterprize she has so long and so warmly cherished."

We see with pleasure from one of the papers, that—

“The act of 1858, ch. 425, appropriates \$5,000 per year, for the space of four years, to the Managers of the Maryland Colonization Society, for the general purposes of said society. It also authorizes the comptroller to pay \$70 for each emancipated slave or free negro, male or female, above the age of ten years, sent by

said society to Africa, and \$35 for each negro, &c., under ten years of age—to be paid if sent by said society to Africa within two months immediately preceding the date of a written certificate of the fact from the Board of Managers, which must be filed with the comptroller. The payments made per capita are not to exceed an additional sum of \$5,000 per annum appropriated by the act for four years.”

Illinois State Colonization Society.

This Society held its Annual Meeting in the First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, on the first of last month. In the absence of the President, Hon. John Moore, Antrim Campbell, Esq., was called to the chair, and the Hon. L. M. Cullom appointed Secretary. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. P. Jennings. By request, the Rev. R. S. Finley, Agent for the State Society, made a statement of the present position of the enterprise, and of the precise object to which the friends of the cause in Illinois should give attention and direct their efforts during the present and ensuing year. The discomforts of the voyage had been relieved by the conveniences of the fine ship, the Mary Caroline Stevens, which sails regularly on the 1st of May and November. The unhealthfulness of the coast may now be avoided by an immediate removal of emigrants to the interior settlement. The prejudices among the free people of color against emigration to Liberia was beginning to give way; and a few of this class in Springfield and Jacksonville, enjoying the confidence both of those of their color and of the whites, were intending to go to Liberia this spring, as pioneers of a much larger company in the fall. He urged that efforts should be made to provide for

the comfortable removal and settlement of these people in Liberia. The expense was estimated to average \$100 per head. All should strive to diffuse information on the subject, so that an application might be successfully made for aid to the State Legislature. The Hon. Wm. Brown and several other gentlemen, then addressed the meeting in a very earnest and effective manner. A committee was appointed to solicit funds.

The following list of officers was then elected for the ensuing year:

President, Hon. John Moore.

Vice Presidents, Hon. Wm. Brown, D. J. Pinckney, J. L. Scripps, Esq., Hon. J. E. McClun, Hon. Samuel Holmes, Hon. W. W. Roman, Judge S. Breese, Hon. John Dougherty, and Rev. Dr. S. Harkey.

Recording Secretary, S. W. Cullom.

Corresponding Secretary, J. S. Verdenberg, Esq.

Treasurer, Wm. Lavelly, Esq.

Board of Managers, Hon. A. Lincoln, Rev. Dr. Brown, Joseph Thayer, Esq., Rev. C. P. Jennings, Rev. C. W. Miner, Rev. John G. Berger, J. S. Vredenberg, Esq., Rev. Francis Springer. S. M. Cullom, and Wm. Lavelly, Esq.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

Partition of the McDonogh Estate.

THE following is the decision of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, on the question of the partition of the McDonogh estate,

between the cities of New Orleans and Baltimore:

City of New Orleans, appellee, vs. city

of Baltimore, the American Colonization Society, and the Society for the Relief of the Desutute Orphan Boys, appellants.

The right of either the city of Baltimore to demand a partition of the property bequeathed to them as testamentary heirs of John McDonogh, under universal title, after the lapse of five years from his death, cannot be seriously questioned. C. C. 1222, 1223, 1506, 8 Ann. 249, 15 Howard 412.

Several articles of the Civil Code must be expunged, before the Society for the relief of orphan boys can be heard to object to a partition between the two cities in this case.

The cities having acquiesced in that portion of the judgment which assesses the present value of the "annuities" to the Orphan Boys' Society and the Colonization Society, the only question of substance left for us, so far as these societies are concerned, is, are the present values of these "immunities" appraised too low.

The questions of *form* raised by the Colonization Society are untenable. The cities alone are entitled to agitate those questions. For, the property partitioned as theirs, no part of McDonogh's estate, existing at the time of his death, was bequeathed to either of the societies who complain of the judgment, nor was any absolute legacy or money left to them. A personal charge was imposed upon the cities to pay over to appellants a proportion of the variable future resources of property bequeathed to the cities alone.

This created no mortgage or real right in favor of the societies on the property of the cities.—Proudhon, 1 d'Usufruct, p. 56.

As it is out of the power of these societies to prevent a partition, and as they have no right in the property itself to be partitioned, they cannot complain of the mode or form in which that partition has been made.

Reverting then to the only question of substance, as far as these societies are concerned, we are of opinion that, under no aspect of the case, has the present value of the so-called annuities been fixed too low.

If the continuance of those annuities were, as the Orphan Boys' Society seems to contend, inseparably bound up with the testator's command that his estate be held forever in indivision, the logical re-

sult would be that the annuities must fall with this illegal partition. The prohibition to divide the estate after five years from the death of the testator being reputed as not written, all the clauses whose validity depends upon that prohibition are to be reputed as not written also.

Under that view of the case, the societies have obtained far greater sums than they are entitled to by strict law, and, instead of being aggrieved, are under obligations to the cities for their liberality in acquiescing in the judgment.

But we do not find it necessary to decide that point, or to hold that the claims of these societies upon the cities cease with the partition. For, upon a careful examination of the provisions of our code, we have come to the conclusion that the Legislature has so far assimilated bequests of this character to usufructs, as to limit their duration to thirty years from the testator's death. Under the title of usufructs, in the section which treats of their expiration, are the following articles:

Art. 601. "The right of the usufruct expires at the death of the usufructuary."

Art. 602. "The legacy made to any one, of the revenues of a property, is a kind of usufruct, which also ceases and becomes extinguished by the death of the legatee, if the contrary has not been expressly stipulated. It is the same with all annual legacies, as pensions of alimony, and the like."

Art. 607. "The usufruct which is granted to corporations, congregations, or other companies, which are declared perpetual, lasts only thirty years."

It seems to us that the intention was, not to make such bequests as the "annuities" in question, usufructs in reality, for there is no transfer of possession to the usufructuary, but to make them *quasi* usufructs, only for the purpose of limiting their donation, and that, by Art. 607, the extreme limit to the bequests before us is thirty years. And so the District Judge held. The revenues seem to have been appraised at a liberal figure.

The manner of estimating the present value of the annuities, laying a calculation of interest at the rate of 8 per cent., seems to be eminently just and equitable, in the absence of any positive provision of law as to the mode of making the calculation.

The statutory provisions upon the subject of the *rente foncière* and constituted annuities, do not appear, to a majority of the court, applicable to a case of this kind.

We are, therefore, of the opinion that the societies which have appealed are in no wise aggrieved by the judgment.

The city of Baltimore is an appellant as to one question only; and that is: whether in the partition, as between New Orleans and Baltimore, the latter city has any claim upon the former by reason of the disparity between the legacies attempted to be created by the testator for the establishment of a school farm in Baltimore and an asylum for the poor in New Orleans, an annuity of an eighth part of the entire revenues having been given for the former purpose, until it amounts to \$3,000,000, and a similar annuity for the latter, until it should amount to \$600,000.

If these bequests do not fall with the illegal injunction to keep the property in

perpetual indivision, they must, at farthest, terminate at the expiration of thirty years, considered as charges upon one city in favor of the other; and, as neither of the sums proposed could be paid within that period out of one-eighth of the revenues, the question becomes of no practical importance.

It is, therefore, ordered and decreed, that the judgment appealed from be affirmed with costs. Spofford, J. Merrick writes a concurring decision, arriving at the same conclusion by different reasoning; also, Buchanan and Cole concurring, in separate opinions. Voorhies absent, but concurring.

Intelligence.

OBITUARY.

DIED at Williamsburgh, New York, on the 21st of January, Mrs. MARTHA E. MCGILL, the wife of James B. McGill, Esq., of Monrovia, Liberia. Mrs. McGill was eminently distinguished for her amableness, charity, and piety, and the generous hospitality of her house, all respectable visitors at Monrovia freely shared, and her loss will fall heavily not only upon her husband, but upon her numerous friends, and upon the poor, to whose relief she dedicated both her time and her means. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

"Although far from her home and country, yet she lacked not friends—friends attached to her from witnessing the truly Christian resignation with which she bore her sufferings, her amiable deportment and evidence of high moral worth. Several of her Liberian friends, who happened to be in this country, were with her during her last hours. The funeral services of Mrs. M. were performed by Bishop Jones, assisted by Doctors Peck and Pinney, and Rev. Messrs. Carlton and Terry, and many highly respectable persons of both sexes were present."

DEATH OF BISHOP WAUGH.

This venerable bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and long a Vice-President of the American Colonization Society, a minister of Christ, eminent for

Christian virtues, for fidelity and usefulness, died at the age of sixty-nine, in Baltimore, on the 9th ult. He is greatly lamented in his church, and by all who knew him.

WEST AFRICA.—A private letter from Bishop Payne, January 1st, states the decease of Mrs. Payne, on December 4th. He speaks of the comfortable health of the remaining members of the (Episcopal) Mission, including that of the three ladies just arrived from the United States. The Bishop writes from Cape Coast Castle, having left Cape Palmas for a season for a restoration of health.

LIBERAL BEQUESTS.—The Baltimore Patriot states that John Johns, who died at Long Green, a few days since, left by his will, the following noble bequests:

Maryland Colonization Society, \$1,000, and an annuity of \$24. To the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary and High School of Virginia, \$15,000. To the Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Diocese of Ohio, \$15,000. To the American Bible Society, \$10,000. To the American Tract Society, \$10,000. To the Protestant Evangelical Society for the Promotion of Evangelical Knowledge in New York, \$10,000. His negroes be manumitted at once.

THE interior of Africa is to be explored by one of our local preachers in Liberia, at the instance of private citizens, and the government of Liberia. His letter, now before, us breathes the spirit of a missionary, and leads us to hope for the real beginning of a time long looked for, when our labors in that country shall be brought to bear more immediately upon the masses of the natives, as advocated recently in these columns.—*N. Y. Ch. Adv.*

WHITE PLAINS in Africa.—Our schools for native girls in this place, under the care of Miss Kilpatrick, has the reputation of being a model for order and advancement. One of our preachers says of it; I think everything about it is as it should be, and indicates the favor of God upon it.—*Id.*

MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—Mr. Griefes has reported a bill in the House of Delegates making an annual appropriation of \$5,000 to this Society, besides the further sum of \$75 for each emancipated slave or free colored person over ten years of age, and \$35 for each one under that age, sent by said Society to Africa, provided the said payments, *per capita*, shall not exceed \$5,000 in any one year. The appropriations thus made are to be applied to the benefit exclusively of persons of color, who shall have been *bona fide* residents of Maryland for five years preceding their application to become emigrants.

THE VOLUNTARY AFRICAN EMIGRATION.

This, says the Journal of Commerce, is about as voluntary as the act of the way laid traveller who makes a *free gift* of his watch and money to the robber who demands them. A gentleman who boarded a French emigrant ship on the African coast, conversed with several of these emigrants and learned their views. He says:

"I they informed me that they were on board against their own will; that the chiefs would not send any of their free people away, but would readily furnish their slaves for sixteen dollars per head—the price formerly given by slavers; that they were brought to the vessel in fetters; that they were anxious to leave the vessel, and hoped that I would do what I could to secure that end. The chiefs are not

particular about the name, and would just as soon have it known as the emigrant system as any other, so long as it opened a market for their captives."

This free emigration is a slave trade in disguise. It cannot fail to kindle discord among the Africans, to repress industry, stir up cruel wars, and spread horror and desolation on the coast and far into the interior.

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—The New Orleans Picayune and Bulletin both denounce in strong terms the Act which has passed one House of the Louisiana Legislature, authorizing the importation of 2,500 negroes from the coast of Africa into that State, to be indentured for a term not less than fifteen years. The Picayune says:—"We believe that if it had been supposed that there was any danger of the State's embarking in a scheme to revive the slave trade, by indirection, and bringing into Louisiana gangs of pagan laborers, fresh from the bloody and barbaric wars of the African coast, there would have gone up from this city a protest speaking the utter repugnance of five-sixths of the population."

The Bulletin declares that the Act is, "from beginning to end, a sheer, unmitigated, transparent fraud. It is an effort to revive the slave trade, under the hypocritical and flimsy disguise of a word." And further, "The Legislature owes it to the dignity, peace, and welfare of the State, if not to its own dignity, to put a stop to this thing at once. It can do no good, and certainly must result in harm."

THE AFRICAN IMPORTATION SCHEME.—The bill authorizing the importation into Louisiana of 2,500 Africans, after passing the House of Delegates with little or no opposition, was rejected in the Senate on the 15th inst., at the close of a most violent and exciting debate, on its third reading, by a majority of two.

A correspondent on the coast of Africa mentions twenty-two vessels, of all descriptions, which have been captured by the English cruisers since April of last year, for being engaged in the slave trade. All but one were American, and the larger number belonged to New York, Boston, and New Orleans. The *free States* take the palm in this business.—*Journal of Commerce.*

THE Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, at their recent meeting, accepted the resignation of the Rev. Charles Brown, and, by appropriate resolutions, expressed their high appreciation of his efforts in behalf of the Society, for the past three years, with their best wishes to attend him, in his retirement from office.

DAT ONE SINGLE VERSE.—An old negro in the West Indies, residing at a considerable distance from the missionary, but exceedingly desirous of learning to read the Bible, came to him regularly for a lesson. He made but little progress, and his teacher, almost disheartened, intimated his fears that his labors would be lost, and asked him, "Had you not better give it over?" "No, massa," said he, with great energy, "me never give it over till me die!" and pointing with his finger to John 3:16—"God so loved the world," etc., added with touching emphasis, "It is worth all de labor to be able to read dat one single verse."

PROMISED AID FROM ILLINOIS.

WE learn from the *Morgan Journal* of March 25th, published at Jacksonville, Illinois, that a public meeting of the friends of African Colonization in that place, recently, resolved to raise five hundred dollars to aid certain respectable people of color who intend to remove from

that State to Liberia. Two hundred and fifty dollars were raised on the spot, and a committee appointed to make up the remainder by application to their fellow citizens. Will not many other towns imitate this good example?

DR. LIVINGSTONE AND THE SLAVE TRADE

—Dr. Livingstone, speaking at the farewell banquet given him in London on the 14th ultimo, said:—I feel convinced that if we can establish a system of free labor in Africa, it will have most decided influence upon slavery throughout the world. (Loud cheers.) Success, however, under Providence, depends upon us as Englishmen. I look upon Englishmen as perhaps the most freedom-loving people in the world; and I think that the kindly feeling which has been displayed towards me since my return to my native land, has arisen from the belief that my efforts might at some future time tend to put an end to the odious traffic in slaves. (Loud cheers.)

LIBERIA.—The mission of the M. E. Church was established in Liberia in 1833. During the twenty-five years of its existence, about \$500,000 have been expended on that field by the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church. There are at present there, 1374 members and twenty preachers. The schools are flourishing, and yet the great value of the mission, as of the Republic, is prospective.—*N. O. Ch. Advo.*

Postage to Liberia via England.

WE are requested to state that notice has been given by the British Post Office of the conclusion of a Postal Convention between Great Britain and the Republic of Liberia, which establishes a combined British and Liberian rate of sixpence the half-ounce letter as the charge for the conveyance of letters posted in one country and delivered in the other after the first of April, 1858, *prepayment of which is made compulsory.*

The Government of Liberia having expressed a desire that letters originating in the United States ad-

dressed to Liberia, as well as letters originating in Liberia addressed to the United States and forwarded through Great Britain, may be fully prepaid in either country to their destinations, a regulation to that effect has been adopted by the United States and British Post Office Departments.

The postage, therefore, to be levied in the United States upon letters addressed to Liberia, via England, after the 1st of April inst., will be 33 cents the single rate of half an ounce or under, *prepayment required.*

Acknowledgment.

THE Rev. H. B. Stewart, pastor, and D. J. Hazzard, deacon of the Independent Congregational Church, in Greenville, Sinou County, Liberia, desire us to acknowledge the receipt of *seventy volumes*, very neatly bound, presented to that church and congregation by the *Massachusetts Sabbath School Society*. After giving the titles of many of these interesting and instructive volumes, they offer their most hearty thanks to the Society, and beg the donors to be assured that these books shall be used for the special objects for which they are given, and that the Church and Sabbath School connected with it, will if desired give an annual statement of their doings. This Church will be happy to hear from the Society, and enjoy the benefit of its friendly counsels.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society;

From the 20th of February, to the 20th of March, 1858.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Northampton—Mrs. G. W. Talbot.....

5 00

CONNECTICUT.

By Rev. John Orcutt:

Hartford—Rev. Wm. W. Turner, \$50, to constitute his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Bacon, a life member; James B. Hosmer, Hon. Thos. S. Williams, H. Huntington, Thomas Smith, each \$50; Rev. N. S. Wheaton, D. D., L. Wilcox, \$25; Lucius Barbour, Bishop Brownell, D. P. Crosby, Calvin Day, Wm. T. Lee, Hungerford & Cone, C. C. Lyman, R. Mather, H. A. Perkins, J. Warburton, Chas. Seymour, Jos. Trumbull, each \$10; H. & W. Kenez, \$8; H. H. Barbour, \$7; Messrs. J. & E. Seymour, Miss A. Goodman, each \$6; H. Fitch, E. T. Smith, J. F. Judd, A. Smith, W. W. House, C. H. Brainard, Chas. Hosmer, Judge Storrs, T. Bolknap, Daniel Phillips, Cash, S. S. Ward, J. C. Walkley, James Goodwin, Mrs. Thomas Day, D. Wesson, T. K. Brace, Miss Sarah Butler, Misses Draper, Leonard Church, Joseph Church, each \$5; S. D. Sperry, O. Allen, Henry French, C. Boswell, Miss Lucretia A. Goodwin, Seth Terry, Mrs. Joseph Morgan, H. R. Hills, H. L. Porter, Mrs. Wm. Ely, L. F. Robinson, Miss H. Butler,

J. W. Bull, S. G. Savage, Charles Benton, Newton Case, E. Bolles, each \$3; Miss Webb, T. A. Alexander, R. S. Seyms, J. F. Morris, Walter Stillman, E. Fessenden, C. F. Davis, N. Kingsbury, C. T. Hillyer, each \$2; A. R. Hillyer, Dr. Taft, A. S. Stillman, Dr. Holmes, H. Perkins, B. Sage, P. Jewell, jr., G. W. Corning, A. D. Euson, T. Steele, T. W. Russell, H. W. Taylor, J. W. Danforth, N. Harris, J. M. B. McNary, R. M. Burdick, Wm. H. Hill, E. Goodwin, F. L. Gleason, each \$1.....

640 00

Meriden—Charles Parker, \$20; J. & E. Parker, \$10—\$30, to constitute Rev. John L. Peck, a life member; Julius Pratt, \$10; Walter Booth, \$1.....

41 00

Middletown—Ladies' Colonization Society.....

50 00

Stamford—Dea. Davenport, \$7; E. Morewood, John Ferguson, Mrs. Geo. Brown, Dea. Petts, R. Swartwout, George Elder, each \$5; Mrs. Dea. Davenport, N. E. Adams, C. Hawley, W. Gay, R. E. Rice, Mrs. George A. Hoyt, S. B. Provost, each \$3; W. T. Minor, A. Milne, each \$2; Miss S. N. L. Stowe, F. W. Osborn, Miss Sarah Ferris, Mrs. M. E. Rogers, each \$1—\$30 of which to constitute Rev. H. B. Elliot a life member.....

66 00

Greenwich—Miss Sarah Lewis,

\$20, Miss Sarah Mead, Augustus Mead, each \$10; Mrs. Mary E. Mason, Zenas Mead, each \$5; Zachariah Mead, \$3; C. Manvil, P. Button, each \$2; Dr. Mead, Dr. Palmer, M. Banks, Oliver Mead, Theo. Mead, each \$1.....	62 00	Rev. Dr. Hall, \$10; J. H. Sheney, Rev. R. O. Spencer, D. Oliver, P. D. Matson, Elias Kamber, J. E. Fithian, and a Virginia lady, each \$5; H. Cone, Rebecca S. Smith, Jas. Lyttle, J. C. Manns, Mrs. J. McCullough, Mrs. J. N. Lewis, S. E. Newton, Dr. Goodrich, each \$3; a friend, and a friend to the Cause, each \$2; D. Chesttleton, Dr. A. Guy, Jas. Long, R. L. Rea, W. H. Johnson, S. Galt, each \$1; M. A. Hughes, \$1.50. Cash, \$1; E. G. Nicholson, half day supply Presbyterian Church, \$5—\$56.50.....	245 75
	859 00		342 75
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Lynchburg—Mrs. M. B. Blackford.....	5 00		
Norfolk—Overton Barnard.....	1 00	FOR REPOSITORY.	
	6 00	MASSACHUSETTS.—Hibster—John	
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Hopewell—Associate Ref'd Presbyterian Church, by Rev. S. McCracken.....	58 00	INDIANA.—Burlington—Rev. A. W. Freeman, to Jan. 1859.....	1 00
By Rev. E. G. Nicholson, Agent:—Goshen—Dr. E. Myers, \$10; R. Randabresh, P. Applegate, M. Fryberger, H. Palmer, John Williams, Dr. D. S. Lyman, O. S. McClellan, Col. A. Teator, and Chas. Thatcher, each \$5; Daniel Bishop, Mrs. R. Williams, A. Williams, each \$2; James McClelland and seventeen others, each \$1—\$18; R. B. McKimie, \$2.50, three others, \$1.75—\$3.25. Mulberry—J. C. Davis, \$10, E. W. Lemming, and W. Myers, each \$5; F. Fernix, \$2, E. Barber, W. Shumard and O. Shumard, each \$1—\$25. Batavia and Williamsburg, \$21. Pleasant View, J. K. Morris, \$10, L. D. Morris, and John Gilmore, each \$5—\$20. Milford—Meih. Episcopal Church, \$10. Oxford, Mrs.		TEXAS.—Warren—Rev. A. Reid, to Jan. 1860.....	3 00
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		" Contributions.....	1,747 58
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OUR Ship, the *MARY CAROLINE STEVENS*, will sail from Baltimore and Norfolk the 1st of May next. Application for freight or cabin passage should be made to Dr. James Hall, Colonization Office, Baltimore; for steerage passage, immediately to this office. The Ship will touch at all the ports in Liberia. Fare: Cabin \$100; Steerage \$35. Freight, \$1.50 a barrel, 30 cents a cubic foot, \$10 a ton. Palm oil, 5 cents a gallon on the entire capacity of the casks. No single package will be taken for less than \$1. All freight will be received and delivered alongside the ship, or landed at the risk and expense of the shipper or consignee. Passage and freight to be paid in advance. Five per cent. primage will be charged on all freight which is not paid in advance.

 All persons sending parcels and packages by Express or otherwise to Baltimore, to be forwarded in the ship, must pay the expenses on the same, including drayage to the ship, in Baltimore. No freight will be received at Norfolk.—The ship will only touch there for emigrants and their baggage and other belongings.

All letters sent to the care of this office will be duly forwarded in the ship. Papers friendly will please copy.

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The Repository will be sent gratuitously—

To every clergymen who takes up annually a collection to aid the Am. Col. Society.

To every person who contributes annually ten dollars, or more, to the Society.

To every life member of the Society;—constituted by the payment of thirty dollars.

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Subscribers who may not be visited by any of our regular agents, will please remit to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, the amount of their subscription, in any kind of funds which may be most convenient to them; which will be acknowledged by mail, free of postage, and also in the succeeding number of the Repository.

Form of Request to the A. C. S.

Those who wish to make bequests to the American Colonization Society, can best secure their object by using the following form, viz: "I give and bequeath the sum of _____dollars to A. B., in trust for the American Colonization Society," &c.

